

Aves descriptæ, ad litora et circa insulas frequentes, etiam manibus captæ sunt. Plures deinde, vivæ in navi servatæ, delectamento erant nautis, erectæ, vacillando circumvagantes, speciem præbentes pueruli mendicii, veste prolixa, terram verrente et manicis pendulis instructa, induti. (Hinc nomen petitum, etsi habitus idem *Spheniscinis* omnibus verisimiliter communis.)

#### 4. On the Birds of Angola.

By R. B. SHARPE, F.L.S., Libr. Z.S., &c.—Part III.

[Received January 17, 1871.]

(Plate VII.)

Since my previous papers on the avifauna of Angola I have only received two collections, neither of them very extensive. The first was placed in my hands by my friend Mr. J. J. Monteiro, who brought a few birds with him on his recent return to England on account of his ill-health. I am happy to say that he has now completely recovered and has gone back to Angola; so that we may expect to have from him some more observations on the ornithology of that country, to the elucidation of the fauna of which he has contributed in so remarkable a manner.

For the second collection I am indebted to Mr. Cutter of Bloomsbury Street, who had received it, in his capacity as a natural-history agent, from Mr. Charles Hamilton, a gentleman now travelling in Angola. I have to thank Mr. F. G. H. Price, who is a personal friend of Mr. Hamilton, and who has aided him greatly in the objects of the expedition, for the following note, which has reference to the localities where the birds were collected:—

“Mr. Hamilton told me in a letter that he had killed most of his birds on the river Lucalla, and some near Cazengo. He informed me that birds were not plentiful, owing to the many enemies the young ones had. He likewise killed birds and caught butterflies in the vicinity of Galungo Alto.”

Having in my last paper (P. Z. S. 1870, p. 142) forgotten to give the number of species, I must here state that up to the present time I have recorded sixty as having been sent by Mr. Monteiro and Heer Sala. It will be interesting in a little while to compare the results obtained by the English naturalists with those obtained by Signor Anchieta, who is making large collections in Angola for the Lisbon Museum, when we may hope to arrive at a correct knowledge of the avifauna of the country. I have, as usual, referred to Prof. Barboza du Bocage's papers on the consignments of Signor Anchieta, a dagger † being prefixed when the bird is believed to have been recorded from Angola for the first time.

#### 61. CRINIGER FLAVIVENTRIS.

*Criniger flaviventris* (Sm.); Finsch, J. f. O. 1867, p. 22.



M. N. Hanhart imp

1. PYCNONOTUS GABONENSIS.  
2. .... TRICOLOR.  
3. .... BARBATUS.



*Trichophorus flaviventer*, Sm.; Bocage, Journ. Acad. Lisb. ii. p. 43.

One specimen shot by Mr. Monteiro. In size it is bigger than *Damara* specimens in my collection, the bill being very conspicuously larger and shorter. I fail, however, to detect the slightest difference in coloration.

62. *PYCNONOTUS TRICOLOR*. (Plate VII. fig. 2.)

*Ixus tricolor*, Hartl. Ibis, 1862, p. 341; Bocage, Journ. Acad. Lisb. i. p. 137.

Mr. Hamilton has sent three specimens of this bird, which was originally discovered by Mr. Monteiro in Angola.

I take the present opportunity of making a few observations on the African species of the genus *Pycnonotus*, as their synonymy appears to me to be in a hopeless state of confusion at present; nor am I quite certain that all my own conclusions are satisfactory, notwithstanding that I am working with a very full complement of specimens before me. In their recent work on the birds of Eastern Africa, Drs. Finsch and Hartlaub give a summary of what they consider to be the representatives of the genus *Pycnonotus* in Africa, as follows:—

a. *With white under tail-coverts.*

1. *Pycnonotus obscurus* (Temm.).
2. *P. inornatus* (Fraser).
3. *P. ashanteus* (Bp.).
4. *P. arsinoë* (Licht.).

b. *With yellow under tail-coverts.*

5. *P. nigricans*, with which is associated *P. xanthopygos* (Hempr. et Ehr.).
6. *P. tricolor* (Hartl.).
7. *P. capensis* (Linn.).

In the first of these groups I recognize only two species (*P. obscurus* and *P. arsinoë*); and in the second group I admit five species, as follows:—(1) *P. gabonensis* (sp. n.), (2) *P. xanthopygius*, (3) *P. nigricans*, (4) *P. tricolor*, and (5) *P. capensis*.

In the first place, the authority for *P. ashanteus* is Prince Bonaparte, who states in his diagnosis that it is exactly similar to *P. obscurus* of Algeria, but is smaller. All I can say is that I fail to discover the slightest specific distinction, and measurements will show how little worth are the differences in size.

I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. T. C. Eyton for the loan of Fraser's type specimen of *P. inornatus*; which I find to be certainly the same as *P. obscurus*. It appears to be a young bird, being suffused with brown on the breast, though this is not a specific character, as any one acquainted with the variations in plumage of the *Pycnonoti* will readily admit. The range of *P. obscurus* may be

stated to be Algeria and Western Africa, from Senegambia to Fantee. It has been recorded (s. n. *Ixus ashanteus*) from Angola; but this extended range requires confirmation, for it is perhaps the Gaboon species which supplies the place of *P. obscurus* from Cameroons southward. The *Bulbul* from Gaboon is certainly a distinct species, and may be described as

PYCNONOTUS GABONENSIS, sp. n. (Plate VII. fig. 1.)

*P. similis* *P. barbato*, sed saturatior et crisso albo, flavo clare lavato.

I have no doubt that this is the bird sometimes called *P. ashan-teus* by authors, as distinguished from *P. inornatus*, by reason of the yellow tint on the vent and under tail-coverts; but as yet no name has been assigned to the species, that I can find. It forms a clearly characterized link between the two sections of the genus, being closely allied to *P. barbatus* and *P. tricolor*.

The accompanying illustration (Plate VII.) represents the three species. It will be observed that *P. gabonensis* (fig. 1) is very similar to *P. barbatus* (fig. 3), but is darker in coloration, and has a slight tint of yellow on the under tail-coverts; these latter are entirely bright yellow in *P. tricolor* (fig. 2).

It must be remembered that the *P. nigricans* of Vieillot is founded on the *Brunoir* of Le Vaillant (pl. 106. fig. 1), and this species is represented with a red eyelid. It would therefore be wrong to join *P. xanthopygius*, which has no red eyelid, with *P. nigricans*, even if the clearly defined black cap and paler coloration were not sufficient to separate the first-mentioned bird. The true *P. nigricans* I have in my collection from Damara Land, Transvaal, and Natal; and Mr. Layard has received it from Dr. Exton, from Kanye in Mosilikatze's country. In addition to the red eyelid, *P. nigricans* has a somewhat mottled appearance on the breast, this being produced by the edges of the feathers being much paler than their bases.

*P. tricolor* is a very variable species, changing both with age and with locality, and presenting very different states of plumage in specimens collected at the same place on the same day of the year. Some of my specimens from Damara Land and Angola agree exactly with the type, with which I have compared them, while others from Graham's Town are so brown on the under surface of the body as to approach very near to *P. capensis*. The range of the species (which has been confused with *P. nigricans*) appears to extend from Angola through Damara Land and Natal to Graham's Town.

*P. capensis* is generally to be recognized by its brown tint of plumage, which extends all over the lower surface of the body. Its range is limited, apparently being confined to the Cape Colony. There are two distinct races of the species, a large and a small form, differing in size, as will be seen below.

	Long. tot.	alæ.	tarsi.
1. South Africa ( <i>Layard</i> ) . . . . .	8·2	3·8	0·85
2. South Africa ( <i>Mus. T. C. Eyton</i> ) . .	6·8	3·6	0·8
3. George ( <i>H. Atmore</i> ) . . . . .	6·9	3·55	0·8



†62. *NECTARINIA CHLOROPYGIA*.

*Nectarinia chloropygia*, Jard. ; Hartl. Orn. Westafr. p. 47.

A pair sent by Mr. Hamilton.

†63. *NECTARINIA CYANOLÆMA*.

*Nectarinia cyanolæma*, Jard. ; Hartl. Orn. Westafr. p. 51.

A pair of this Sunbird are sent by Mr. Hamilton.

†64. *NECTARINIA SUPERBA*.

*Nectarinia superba* (Vieill.) ; Hartl. Orn. Westafr. p. 45.

Two males are in Mr. Hamilton's collection.

65. *TERPSIPHONE VIRIDIS*.

*Tchitreia viridis* (Müll.) ; Gray, Hand-l. of B. i. p. 332.

*Tchitreia cristata* (Gm.) ; Bocage, Jorn. Lisb. 1870, p. 343.

One specimen in Mr. Hamilton's collection.

†66. *PLATYSTEIRA LEUCOPYGIALIS*.

*Platysteira leucopygialis*, Fras. ; Hartl. Orn. Westafr. p. 95.

One specimen forwarded by Mr. Hamilton.

†67. *NIGRITA CANICAPILLA*.

*Nigrita canicapilla*, Strickl. ; Hartl. Orn. Westafr. p. 130.

Mr. Hamilton has sent a single specimen of this bird ; and a careful examination proves conclusively that *N. emiliæ*, of the specific difference of which I had begun to have some doubts, is certainly another species, the characters being correctly given by me in the original description (*Ibis*, 1869, p. 384).

†68. *HYPOCHERA NIGERRIMA*, sp. n.

*H. similis* *H. nitenti*, sed major : omnino nigra : alis et cauda brunneis : margine carpali et hypochondriis albidis : rostro albescenti-rubido : pedibus brunneis. Long. tot. 4·2, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·4, tarsi 0·6 poll. Angl.

One specimen of this apparently new species of *Hypochera* has been sent by Mr. Hamilton. M. Jules Verreaux agrees with me that it is distinct from *H. nitens*, and approaches more closely his *Vidua hypocherina*, exhibiting an additional proof of the affinities of the two genera *Vidua* and *Hypochera*. Compared with *H. nitens*, the new species is distinguished by its larger size and totally black coloration. *H. nitens* measures as follows :—Long tot. 3·8, alæ 2·35, caudæ 1·35, tarsi 0·5.

69. *DILOPHUS CARUNCULATUS*.

*Dilophus carunculatus* (Gm.) ; Mont. P. Z. S. 1865, p. 93.

Several specimens in Mr. Monteiro's collection obtained by Heer Sala. They were all procured at Galungo in August 1869.